

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: WALKER et al.

) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

)

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

)

) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

)

) Attorney Docket No: 03-011

)

Filing Date: February 23, 2004

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) **CUSTOMER NO.: 22927**

)

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For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
SETTING GAME PARAMETERS

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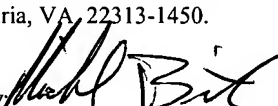
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope with sufficient postage and addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450.

Dated: 02/23/04 By: 

Michael D. Brinton

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a thorough search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Nor shall the filing of this information disclosure statement be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 may be deemed to be pertinent

to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. ☐ Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the pending U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider and independently ascertain the teachings and relevance of those applications with respect to the instant application. Applicants would be pleased to provide the Examiner with a copy of these applications upon request.
2. ☐ For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a European Search Report from a counterpart European application is enclosed. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): _____.
3. ☐ For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): _____.
4. ☒ No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491.

- [] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
5. [] No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.
6. [] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action). The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is to be paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
7. [] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance, but before the payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
- a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
 - b. this document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement.
 - c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
8. [] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue;

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue.

☐ The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

9. ☐ I hereby certify:

☐ that each item of information contained in the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of such communication is enclosed.

☐ that no item of information contained or listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. ☐ Please accept payment of the fees due as indicated below:

☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).

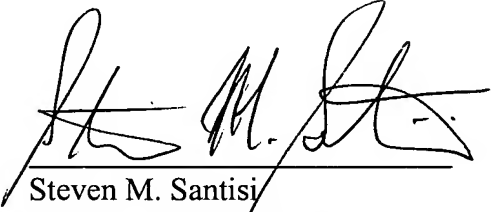
[] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0271 in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

11. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271. A copy of this authorization is attached.

12. [] No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination.

Respectfully submitted,

February 23, 2004
Date



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(203) 461-7300/fax

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION				Docket Number 03-011		Serial Number Not Yet Assigned		
				Applicants WALKER et al.				
				Filing Date February 23, 2004		Group Art Unit Not Yet Assigned		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIAT E	
	A	4,184,683	01/22/80	Hooker	273	143		
	B	4,448,419	05/15/84	Telnaes	273	143 R		
	C	4,570,934	02/18/86	Smyth	273	143		
	D	4,669,731	06/02/87	Clarke	273	143		
	E	4,679,143	07/07/87	Hagiwara	364	412		
	F	4,695,053	09/22/87	Vazquez, Jr. et al.	273	143 R		
	G	4,760,245	07/26/88	Fukaya	235	379		
	H	4,856,787	08/15/89	Itkis	273	237		
	I	4,939,705	07/03/90	Hamilton et al.	368	10		
	J	4,991,848	02/12/91	Greenwood et al.	273	143 R		
	K	5,083,271	01/21/92	Thacher et al.	364	411		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No
	L	GB 2 161 008 A	01/02/86	United Kingdom				
	M	WO 98/19280	05/07/98	PCT				
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
	N	Brewer, Kathleen Pearl, Cummings, Leslie E., "Gaming language: getting a handle on slots.", Cornell Hotel & Restaurant Administration Quarterly, April 1995, Section: Vol. 36, No. 2, pg. 74, ISSN: 0010-8804.						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED:				
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIAT E
	O	5,108,099	04/28/92	Smyth	273	138	
	P	5,123,649	06/23/92	Tiberio	273	143	
	Q	5,178,390	01/12/93	Okada	273	143	
	R	5,179,517	01/12/93	Sarbin et al.	364	410	
	S	5,242,163	09/07/93	Fulton	273	85 CP	
	T	5,259,616	11/09/93	Bergmann	273	138 A	
	U	5,275,400	01/04/94	Weingardt et al.	273	85 CP	
	V	5,277,424	01/11/94	Wilms	273	85 CP	
	W	5,342,047	08/30/94	Heidel et al.	273	85 CP	
	X	5,356,140	10/18/94	Dabrowski et al.	273	85 CP	
	Y	5,370,399	12/06/94	Liverance	273	434	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>	
	Z Rose, Bob, "New Ways for the House to Win", St. Louis Post-Dispatch, October 3, 1996, Section: Get Out, pg. 50.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED:
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EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIAT E
	AA	5,393,057	02/28/95	Marnell, II	273	85 CP	
	BB	5,393,061	02/28/95	Manship et al	273	143	
	CC	5,401,023	03/28/95	Wood	273	85 CP	
	DD	5,409,225	04/25/95	Kelly et al.	273	138 R	
	EE	5,449,173	09/12/95	Thomas et al	273	143	
	FF	5,494,287	02/27/96	Manz	273	143 R	
	GG	5,511,784	04/30/96	Furry et al.	273	143 R	
	HH	5,544,892	08/13/96	Breeding	273	292	
	II	5,559,312	09/24/96	Lucero	235	380	
	JJ	5,564,700	10/15/96	Celona	463	27	
	KK	5,580,308	12/03/96	Nakamura	463	7	
	LL	5,580,309	12/03/96	Piechowiak et al.	463	16	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>	
	MM Brochure: "Power Play Slots", (http //www softsite com/ulti/), January 1997.

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EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIAT E
	NN	5,603,502	02/18/97	Nakagawa	273	292	
	OO	5,611,730	03/18/97	Weiss	463	20	
	PP	5,639,088	06/17/97	Schneider et al	273	138.2	
	QQ	5,664,998	09/09/97	Seelig et al.	463	20	
	RR	5,655,961	08/12/97	Acres et al.	463	27	
	SS	5,695,400	12/09/97	Fennell, Jr. et al.	463	42	
	TT	5,695,402	12/09/97	Stupak	463	20	
	UU	5,697,843	12/16/97	Manship	463	20	
	VV	5,702,304	12/30/97	Acres et al.	463	29	
	WW	5,704,835	01/06/98	Dietz, II	463	20	
	XX	5,720,662	02/24/98	Holmes, Jr. et al.	463	20	
	YY	5,722,891	03/03/98	Inoue	463	20	

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OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>		

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	ZZ	5,741,183	04/21/98	Acres et al.	463	42	
	AAA	5,755,621	05/26/98	Marks et al.	463	42	
	BBB	5,800,264	09/01/98	Pascal et al.	463	16	
	CCC	5,823,879	10/20/98	Goldberg et al.	463	42	
	DDD	5,833,537	11/10/98	Barrie	463	21	
	EEE	5,833,538	11/10/98	Weiss	463	21	
	FFF	5,833,540	11/10/98	Miodunski et al.	463	42	
	GGG	5,836,586	11/17/98	Marks et al.	273	292	
	HHH	5,848,932	12/15/98	Adams	463	20	
	III	5,851,147	12/22/98	Stupak et al.	463	13	
	JJJ	5,910,048	06/08/99	Feinberg	463	25	
	KKK	5,997,400	12/07/99	Seelig et al.	463	6	
	LLL	5,997,401	12/07/99	Crawford	463	20	

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							Yes	No

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>		

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIAT E
	MMM	5,882,260	03/16/99	Marks et al.	463	13	
	NNN	5,979,702	11/09/99	Hennessey et al.	221	206	
	OOO	5,980,384	11/09/99	Barrie	463	16	
	PPP	6,004,207	12/21/99	Wilson, Jr. et al.	463	20	
	QQQ	6,019,374	02/01/00	Breeding	273	292	
	RRR	6,033,307	03/07/00	Vancura	463	20	
	SSS	6,039,648	03/21/00	Guinn et al.	463	16	
	TTT	6,068,552	05/30/00	Walker et al.	463	21	
	UUU	6,077,162	06/20/00	Weiss	463	26	
	VVV	6,077,163	06/20/00	Walker et al.	463	26	
	WWW	6,089,975	07/18/00	Dunn	463	16	
	XXX	6,093,100	07/25/00	Singer et al.	463	13	

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OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>		
	YYY	Author Unknown; "Innovative Gaming Announces Nevada Approval of IGT Joint Venture Game-Bonus Streak", PR Newswire; May 14, 1997, Section: Financial News.

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	ZZZ	6,113,102	09/05/00	Marks et al.	273	292	
	AAAA	6,135,882	10/24/00	Kadlic	463	13	
	BBBB	6,142,872	11/07/00	Walker et al.	463	16	
	CCCC	US 6,203,430 B1	03/20/01	Walker et al.	463	20	
	DDDD	US 6,264,560 B1	07/24/01	Goldberg et al.	463	42	
	EEEE	US 6,270,409 B1	08/07/01	Shuster	463	20	
	FFFF	US 6,270,412 B1	08/07/01	Crawford et al.	463	20	
	GGGG	US 6,287,202B1	09/11/01	Pascal et al.	463	42	
	HHHH	US 6,312,332 B1	11/06/01	Walker et al.	463	23	
	IIII	US 6,364,765 B1	04/02/02	Walker et al.	463	16	
	JJJJ	6,606,602	08/12/03	Kolls	705	14	
	KKKK	6,520,856	02/18/03	Walker et al.	280	735	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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		Filing Date February 23, 2004	Group Art Unit Not Yet Assigned
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LLLL	Poole, David, "Letter From Charlotte: Vegas Perfect For Racing", Las Vegas Review-Journal, June 22, 1997, Section C, Pg. 2C.		
MMMM	"Shuffle Master Begins Immediate Rollout of Five Deck Frenzy and Introduces New Version of Let It Ride", PR Newswire, June 30, 1997, Section: Financial News.		
NNNN	Review: "Five Deck Frenzy", by Shuffle Master and IGT, (http://pitboss.com/R-5deck.shtm), download date: February 1, 1998.		
OOOO	Cook, Melissa, "The Best New Slots", Casino Player Magazine, April 1998, pg. 45.		
PPPP	Grochowski, John; "Royal Is Worth Taking A Risk" Chicago Sun Times, April 5, 1998, Section: SHO, CASINOS, pg. 18; NC.		
QQQQ	Green, Marian; "The New Slot Market", International Gaming & Wagering Business, May 1998, Vol. 19, No. 5.		
RRRR	Website: "World of Slots - The Game King", Casino Journal, (http://www.casinocenter.com/journal/oct97/html/igt.html), download date June 4, 1998.		
SSSS	Website: "A New Generation", Casino Journal (http://www.casinocenter.com/journal/oct97/html/bally.html), download date June 4, 1998.		
TTTT	Author Unknown; "The Interactive Experience", Casino Journal (http://www.casinocenter.com/journal/oct97/html/ac_coin.html), download date June 4, 1998.		
UUUU	Brokopp, John, "New Slots Send Up Caution Flag", (http://brokopp.casinocitytimes.com/articles/545.html), dated: August 2, 1999.		
VVVV	Brochure: "Vision Series – 5-Line Double Diamond Mine", IGT, Copyright 2000.		
WWWW	Website: "Double Diamond Mine Slots", (http://www.igt.com/GamingGroup/Games/game.asp?pid=5.12.108.119&theme_id=2390), download date: February 9, 2004.		
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